

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract currently of record with the following new Abstract:

--A lighting unit including a light-reflecting reflector, a plurality of cold cathode tubes disposed inside the reflector and an optical waveguide connected with an open end of the reflector to guide the light emitted by the cold-cathode tubes. The reflector has a reflective surface that reflects the light having been emitted by the cold-cathode tubes in the direction nearly perpendicular to the wall of each tube, and only in a direction in which the light reflected does not re-enter the cold-cathode tubes. In another embodiment, the lighting unit may include a second optical waveguide disposed in the space between the cold-cathode tube and the reflector, wherein a space is formed between the cold-cathode tube and the second optical waveguide.--